

Fishery Conservation and Management

§ 648.108

or a volume of not more than 4,320 in³ (2.5 ft³ or 70.79 cm³).

[61 FR 34968, July 3, 1996, as amended at 62 FR 37157, July 11, 1997; 63 FR 27868, May 21, 1998; 66 FR 39292, July 30, 2001; 67 FR 50372, Aug. 2, 2002; 68 FR 44236, July 28, 2003; 69 FR 62822, Oct. 28, 2004; 72 FR 65468, Nov. 21, 2007; 73 FR 29999, May 23, 2008; 74 FR 30011, June 24, 2009]

§ 648.106 Sea Turtle conservation.

Sea turtle regulations are found at 50 CFR parts 222 and 223.

[64 FR 57595, Oct. 26, 1999]

§ 648.107 Conservation equivalent measures for the summer flounder fishery.

(a) The Regional Administrator has determined that the recreational fishing measures proposed to be implemented by Massachusetts through North Carolina for 2010 are the conservation equivalent of the season, minimum fish size, and possession limit prescribed in §§ 648.102, 648.103, and 648.105(a), respectively. This determination is based on a recommendation from the Summer Flounder Board of the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission.

(1) Federally permitted vessels subject to the recreational fishing measures of this part, and other recreational fishing vessels harvesting summer flounder in or from the EEZ and subject to the recreational fishing measures of this part, landing summer flounder in a state whose fishery management measures are determined by the Regional Administrator to be conservation equivalent shall not be subject to the more restrictive Federal measures, pursuant to the provisions of § 648.4(b). Those vessels shall be subject to the recreational fishing measures implemented by the state in which they land.

(2) [Reserved]

(b) Federally permitted vessels subject to the recreational fishing measures of this part, and other recreational fishing vessels subject to the recreational fishing measures of this part and registered in states whose fishery management measures are not determined by the Regional Administrator to be the conservation equivalent of the season, minimum size, and

possession limit prescribed in §§ 648.102, 648.103(b) and 648.105(a), respectively, due to the lack of, or the reversal of, a conservation equivalent recommendation from the Summer Flounder Board of the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, shall be subject to the following precautionary default measures: Season - May 1 through September 30; minimum size - 21.5 inches (54.61 cm); and possession limit - two fish.

[67 FR 50372, Aug. 2, 2002, as amended at 68 FR 44236, July 28, 2003; 69 FR 53840, Sept. 3, 2004; 70 FR 35046, June 16, 2005; 71 FR 29256, May 22, 2006; 71 FR 42318, July 26, 2006; 72 FR 30497, June 1, 2007; 73 FR 29999, May 23, 2008; 73 FR 29999, May 23, 2008; 74 FR 30011, June 24, 2009; 75 FR 39177, July 8, 2010]

§ 648.108 Framework adjustments to management measures.

(a) *Within season management action.* The Council, at any time, may initiate action to add or adjust management measures within the Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass FMP if it finds that action is necessary to meet or be consistent with the goals and objectives of the plan.

(1) *Adjustment process.* The Council shall develop and analyze appropriate management actions over the span of at least two Council meetings. The Council must provide the public with advance notice of the availability of the recommendation(s), appropriate justification(s) and economic and biological analyses, and the opportunity to comment on the proposed adjustment(s) at the first meeting and prior to and at the second Council meeting. The Council's recommendations on adjustments or additions to management measures must come from one or more of the following categories: Minimum fish size, maximum fish size, gear restrictions, gear requirements or prohibitions, permitting restrictions, recreational possession limit, recreational seasons, closed areas, commercial seasons, commercial trip limits, commercial quota system including commercial quota allocation procedure and possible quota set asides to mitigate bycatch, recreational harvest limit, annual specification quota setting process, FMP Monitoring Committee composition and process, description and identification of essential fish habitat